



Meeting Minutes	May 5, 2016	Cutter Gallery
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In attendance: Commissioners Stephanie Marlin-Curiel, Barbara Costa, Adria Arch, Jonathan Hyde, Aimee Taberner, and Carla Dorato

Absent: Leland Stein

The meeting was called to order at 7:50pm.

- **Minutes** from the April 7, 2016, meeting were approved unanimously.
- **Cultural District:** From the last Managing Partnership meeting: Town Planner Jenny Raitt has joined the partnership as has Mike Buglio from the Book Rack, who will represent Arlington Center. The partnership approved an edited Resolution for the BOS (date of presentation and vote TBD).

It also began the process of assigning specific roles.

Library – overall coordination

ACA – marketing, community relations, branding

Chamber – fiscal agent

Financial management role has yet to be determined. Some partnership members will take on the role of heading up community engagement.

The partnership discussed a 6-month plan that includes signage ideas; initial development of marketing, branding, and web site; development of the overall narrative for the district; and two additional partnership meetings.

In the next 2 months: finalize application; schedule the BOS meeting; and schedule the site visit by the Mass Cultural Council.

Perhaps it would be worth looking at Concord's planning process.

There was discussion about the need to keep the Heights "in the loop" as district planning progresses.

Also, discussion about the challenge of bridging the "gap" between the Center and Capitol Square. APA is very aware of the issue and is working on ideas. One idea: call

for artists to create wayfinding ideas – would be coordinated by APA consultant Cecily Miller.

- **Meeting with Jenny Raitt, Town Planner:** Very positive meeting – she intends to be fully engaged with ACAC's role and programs. Discussion topics: cultural district, cultural plan, and possible cultural staff position. She has included \$5,000 in her FY17 budget request for cultural planning. She will contact MAPC about ACAC's grant application. S. Marlin-Curiel followed up the meeting by sending Raitt ACAC materials related to the discussion topics.
- **Kevin Duffy sculpture:** A Arch reported that Kevin Duffy's swan sculpture in Spy Pond Park is up for renewal or a decision about its permanent placement at the park. It will be voted on at the May 14th meeting with the Parks Commission.

C. Dorato raised the larger issue of who is responsible for maintaining all of the town's public art.

- **ACA:** Update from B. Costa: The final decision on the future of the Gibbs School, ACA's current home, is still in process. There are differing cost estimates of expanding Ottoson vs renovating the Gibbs. If the School Committee opts for the 6th grade-only option at the Gibbs, the ACA will have to move. ACA does intend to respond to the RFP issued for space in the Central School with a proposal for the 3rd and 4th floors. The Arlington Lithography building next to AHS is still being considered. None of the options to move from the Gibbs will have enough space for all the studios currently at the Gibbs.
- **East Arlington Public Art:** Cecily Miller has been conducting extensive grassroots meetings with East Arlington businesses and residents. FinComm turned down a request for \$7,500. NEFA might be a possible funding source.

Two scheduled pop-up projects: giant chess set at Spy Pond Park on May 20; workshop to build giant puppets at the Fox Library, June 18 as part of the Feast of the East.

Under consideration: collaboration with artist Cedric Douglas and his Up Truck project, a mobile arts lab that engages the community in creating public art.

C. Dorato asserted the need to include all three business districts in future public art projects.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35pm.